

# Current activities at DLR Oberpfaffenhofen for remote sensing of inland waters

Peter Gege

DLR, Earth Observation Center, Remote Sensing Technology Institute, Oberpfaffenhofen, 82234 Wessling, Germany  
[peter.gege@dlr.de](mailto:peter.gege@dlr.de)

EAWAG Kastanienbaum, Switzerland, 15 April 2019



Knowledge for Tomorrow



125 (IMF) + 220 (DFD) staff

60+ doctoral candidates

14 professors  
(incl. adjoint teaching and guest professors)

Third party funding: 46% (IMF) + 59% (DFD)



**Remote Sensing Technology Institute (IMF)**

Director: Prof. Dr. Richard Bamler

**German Remote Sensing Data Center (DFD)**

Director: Prof. Dr. Stefan Dech

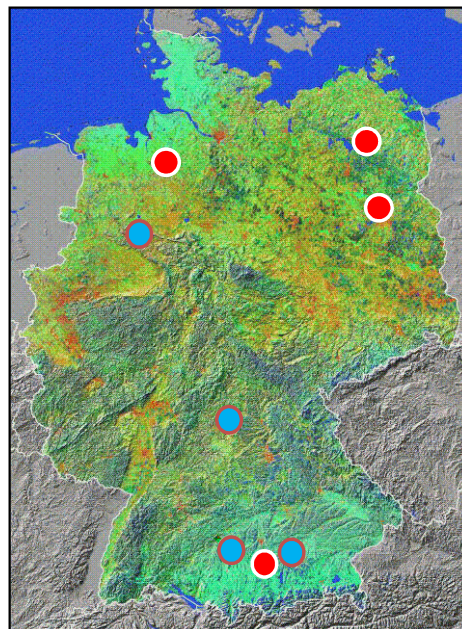




## Campuses of EOC



● Neustrelitz



● Berlin-Adlershof



● Oberpfaffenhofen



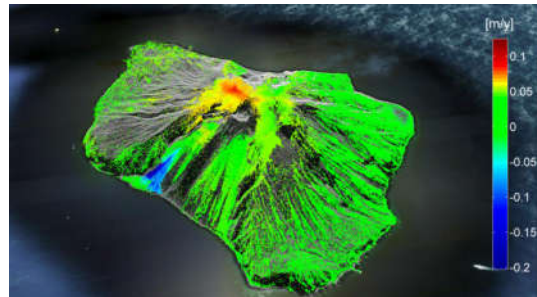
● Bremen

- University of Würzburg
- Technical University of Munich
- University of Augsburg
- University of Osnabrück

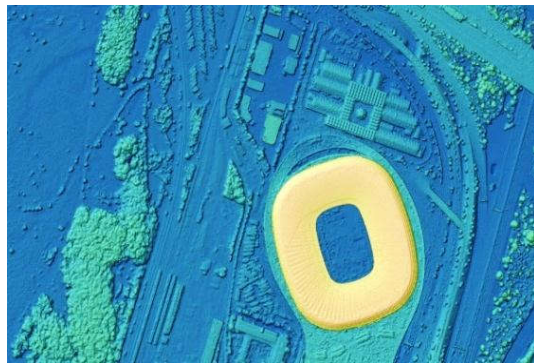


# Remote Sensing Technologies at IMF

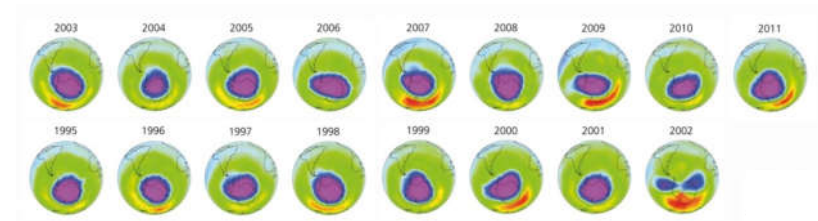
- Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR)



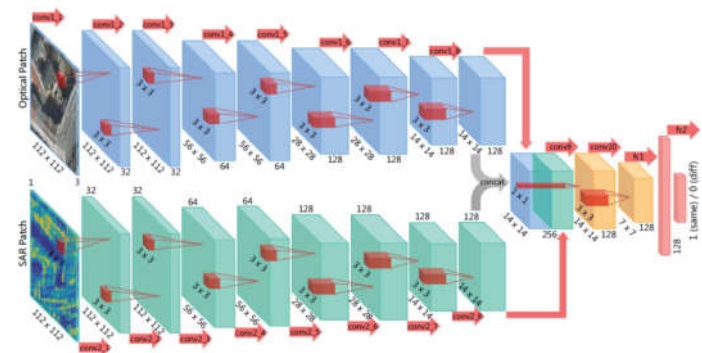
- Optical Remote Sensing



- Atmospheric Spectrometry (Active and Passive)



- Data Science
- Cross-technology



# Current activities at DLR Oberpfaffenhofen for remote sensing of inland waters

## Outline

- L0-L1: Sensors, Calibration
- L1-L2: Data, Validation
- L2-L3: Models, applications
  - Optically deep water
  - Inherent optical properties
  - Atmospheric correction
  - Reflections at the water surface
  - Optically shallow waters
- Software WASI



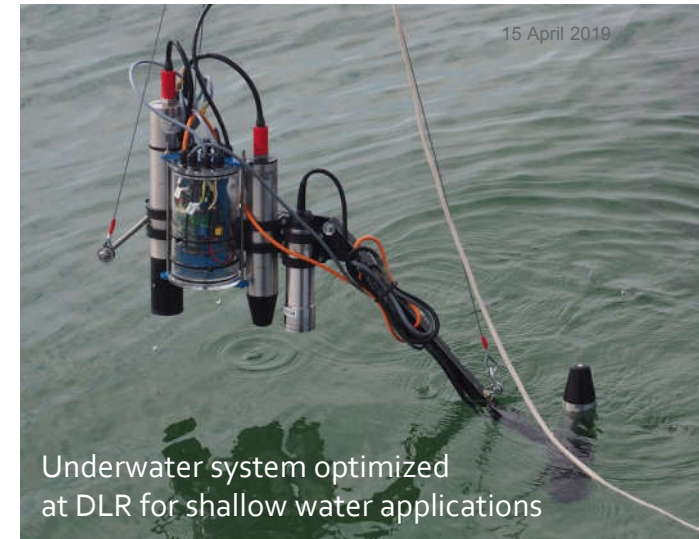
# L0-L1: Sensors, Calibration



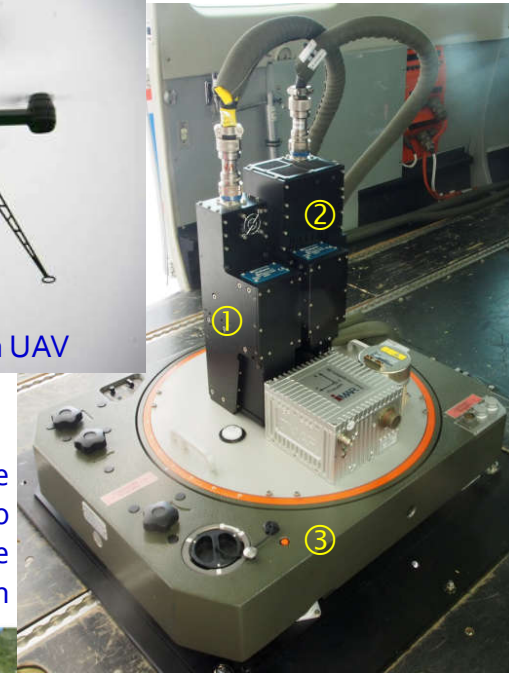


## Hyperspectral sensors

- Laboratory spectrometers (various; 200 – 3000 nm). Usage:
  - sensor calibration
  - spectral data for material data bases
- Field spectrometers (various; 350 – 2500 nm). Usage:
  - development of physically based inversion algorithms
  - validation of remote sensing products (Level-2)
  - spectral data for material data bases
- Hyperspectral snapshot camera on UAV (Cubert; 450 – 950 nm).
  - hyperspectral mapping for local applications
- Imaging spectrometer on airplane (HySpex; 420 – 2500 nm). Usage:
  - simulation of multi- and hyperspectral satellite data
  - hyperspectral mapping for regional applications

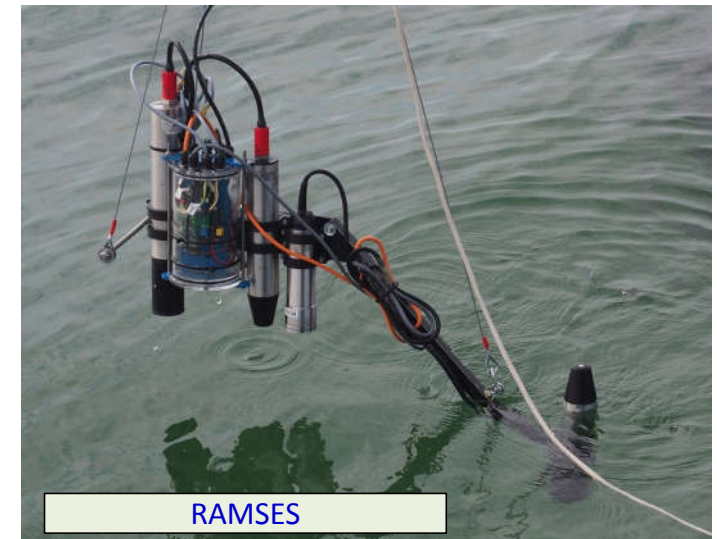
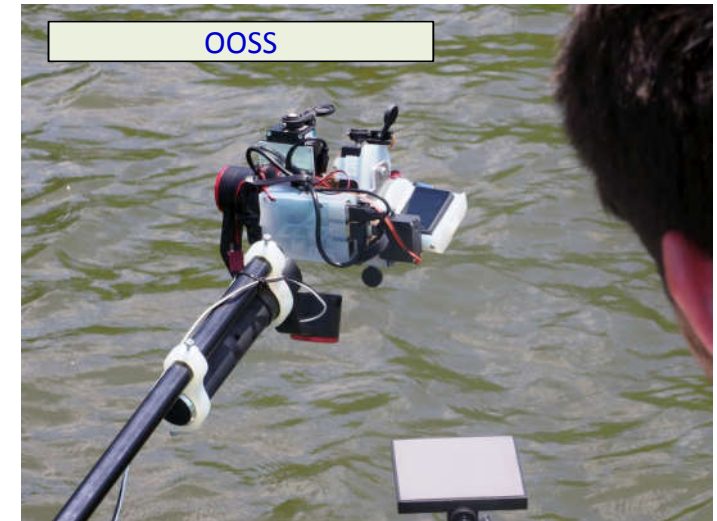
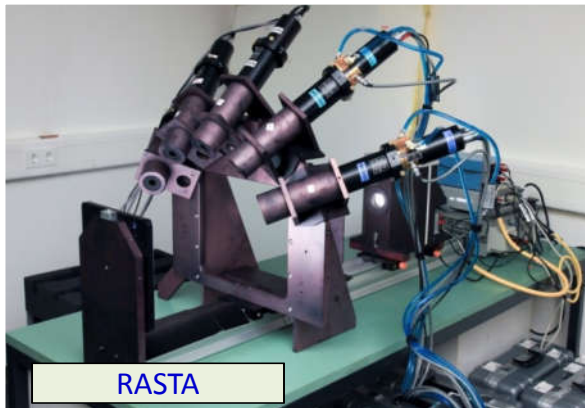


HySpex system in airplane  
1: Camera VNIR-1600  
2: Camera SWIR-320m-e  
3: Stabilized platform



## Hardware development and optimization

- **RASTA**: Radiance standard. Developed for sensor calibration.
- **Stray light source**. Developed for measuring stray light of EnMAP.
- **OOSS**: Ocean Optics sensor system. Developed for handheld measurements on swaying boats.
- **RAMSES**. System optimized for underwater measurements in shallow waters.
- **FELGO**. Goniometer for BRDF measurements.
- **AquaVIS**. Spectrometer on UAV. Under development.



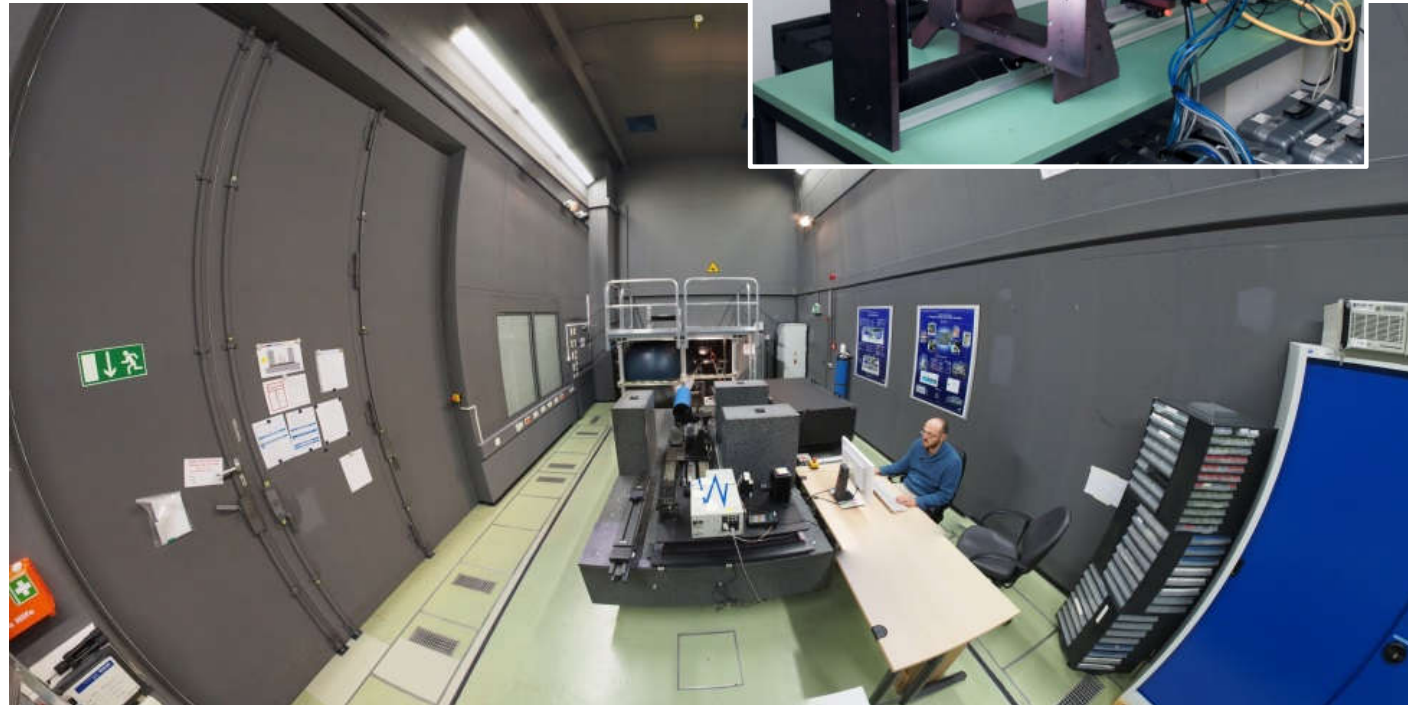
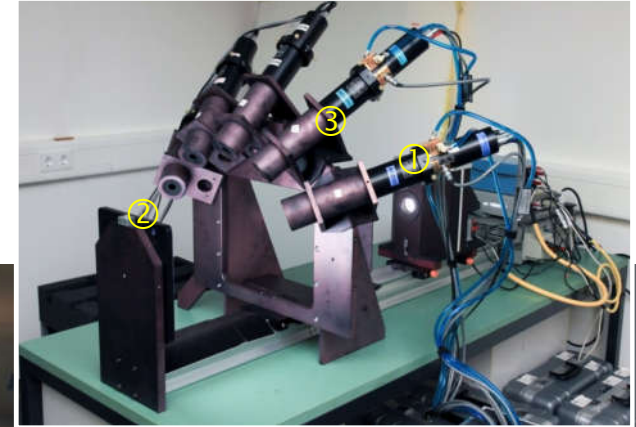


## Calibration Home Base (CHB)

- Designed for hyperspectral instruments
  - Spectral range: 350 – 2500 nm
  - Suited for bulky and heavy instruments up to 500 kg
  - Same position as in aircraft
- Accurate characterization of sensor parameters
  - Spectral
  - Radiometric
  - Geometric
- Light sources traceable to SI units
- ISO certified

### Radiance standard RASTA

- 1: Lamp
- 2: Diffuse reflector
- 3: Radiometers for monitoring



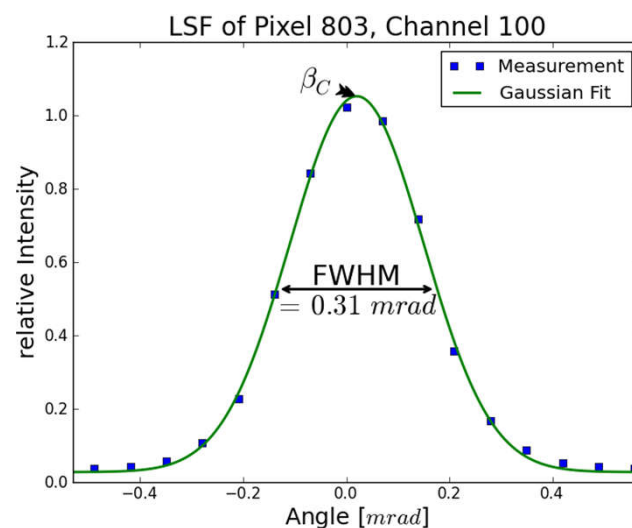
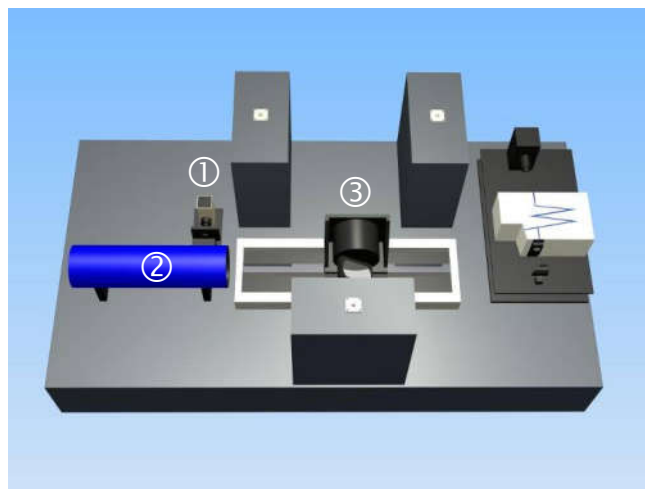
CHB laboratory for operational measurements



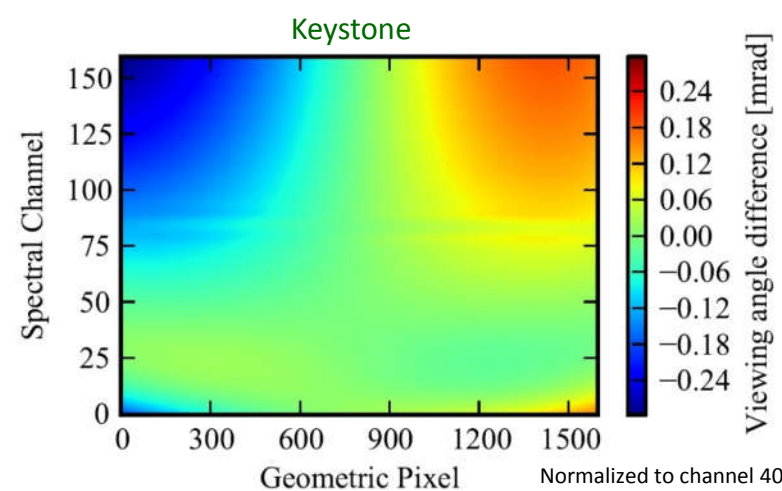
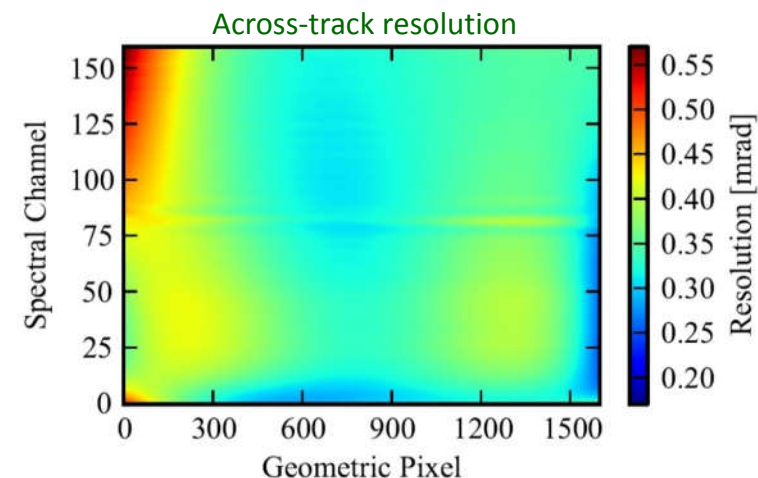
## Geometric measurements

*The sensor (not shown) is mounted on the pillars and looks downwards*

- Quartz halogen lamp ① illuminates narrow slit
- Collimator ② produces nearly parallel light beam
- Folding mirror ③ scans over pixels



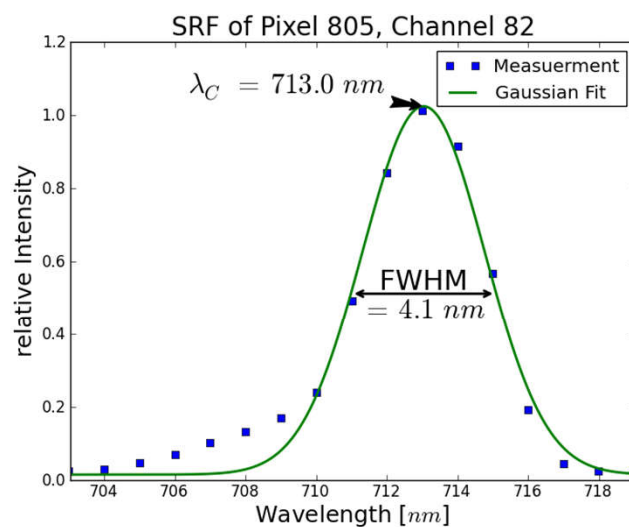
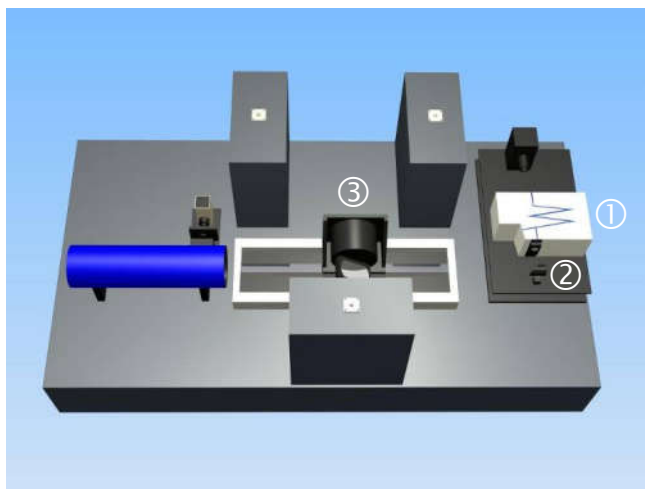
## Results for HySpex



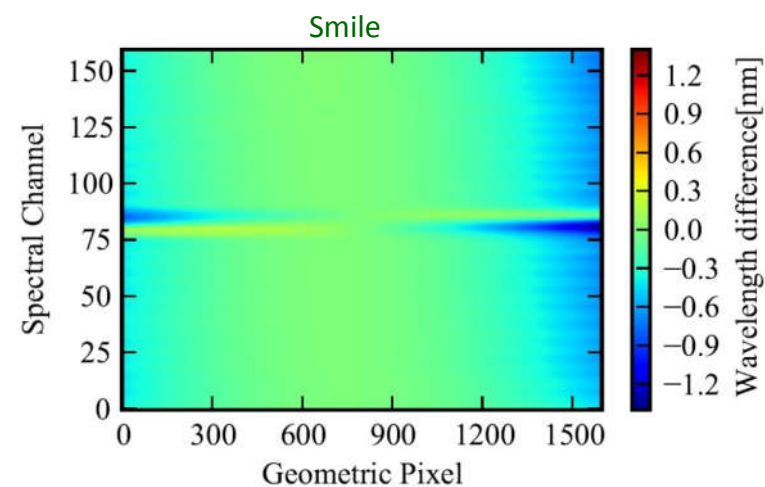
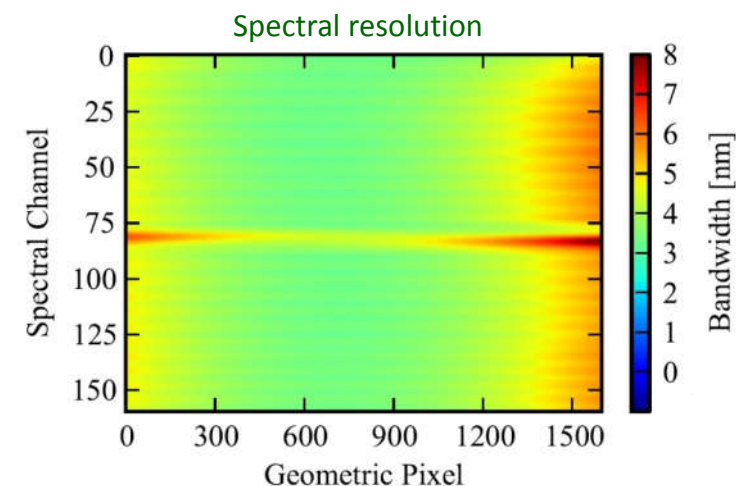
# Spectral measurements

*The sensor (not shown) is mounted on the pillars and looks downwards*

- Monochromator ① scans over wavelength
- Parabolic mirror ② focusses beam
- Folding mirror ③ selects some pixels



## Results for HySpex





## Sensor calibration

- **Airborne sensor: HySpex**

- self-developed software LOAN for L0-L1a processing
- input are the sensor parameters measured in the CHB
- output is the spectral radiance of each pixel
- non-linearities, stray light are corrected
- data are resampled to a virtual sensor to equalize the differences between detector elements
- LOAN is part of automatized processing chain CATENA
  - L0-L1a: spectral and radiometric calibration (LOAN)
  - L1a-L1b: georeferencing (ORTHO)
  - L1b-L2: atmospheric correction and conversion to reflectance (ATCOR)

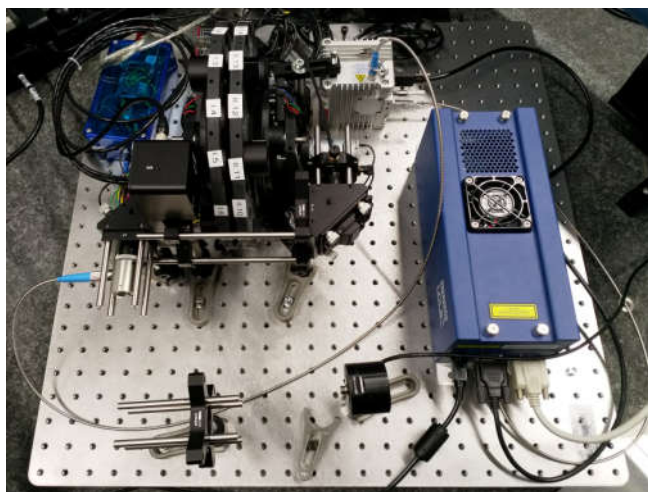
- **Field instruments: OOSS, Ibsen, RAMSES**

- main usage of field instruments is based on L2 data (reflectance)
- calibration to L1 (radiance, irradiance) so far not complete and consistent
- self-developed, instrument-specific software SpecCon for L0-L2 processing

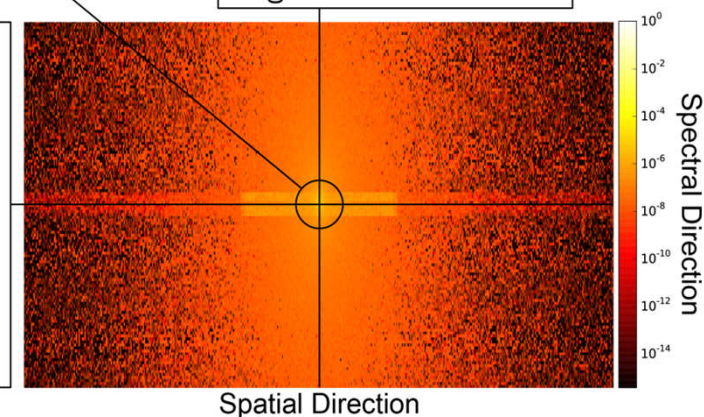
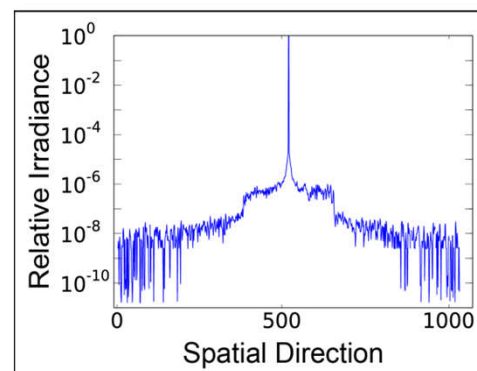
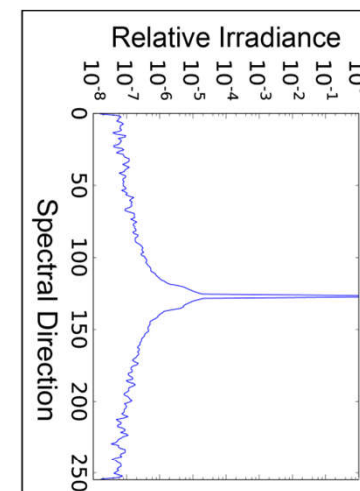
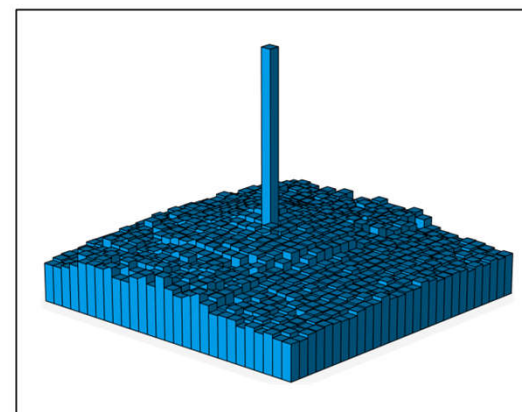


## EnMAP characterization

- EnMAP: German hyperspectral satellite sensor
- Launch planned end of 2020
- EnMAP instrument is developed by OHB
- We support OHB in sensor characterization



Light source developed to measure stray light of EnMAP  
(Courtesy A. Baumgartner)



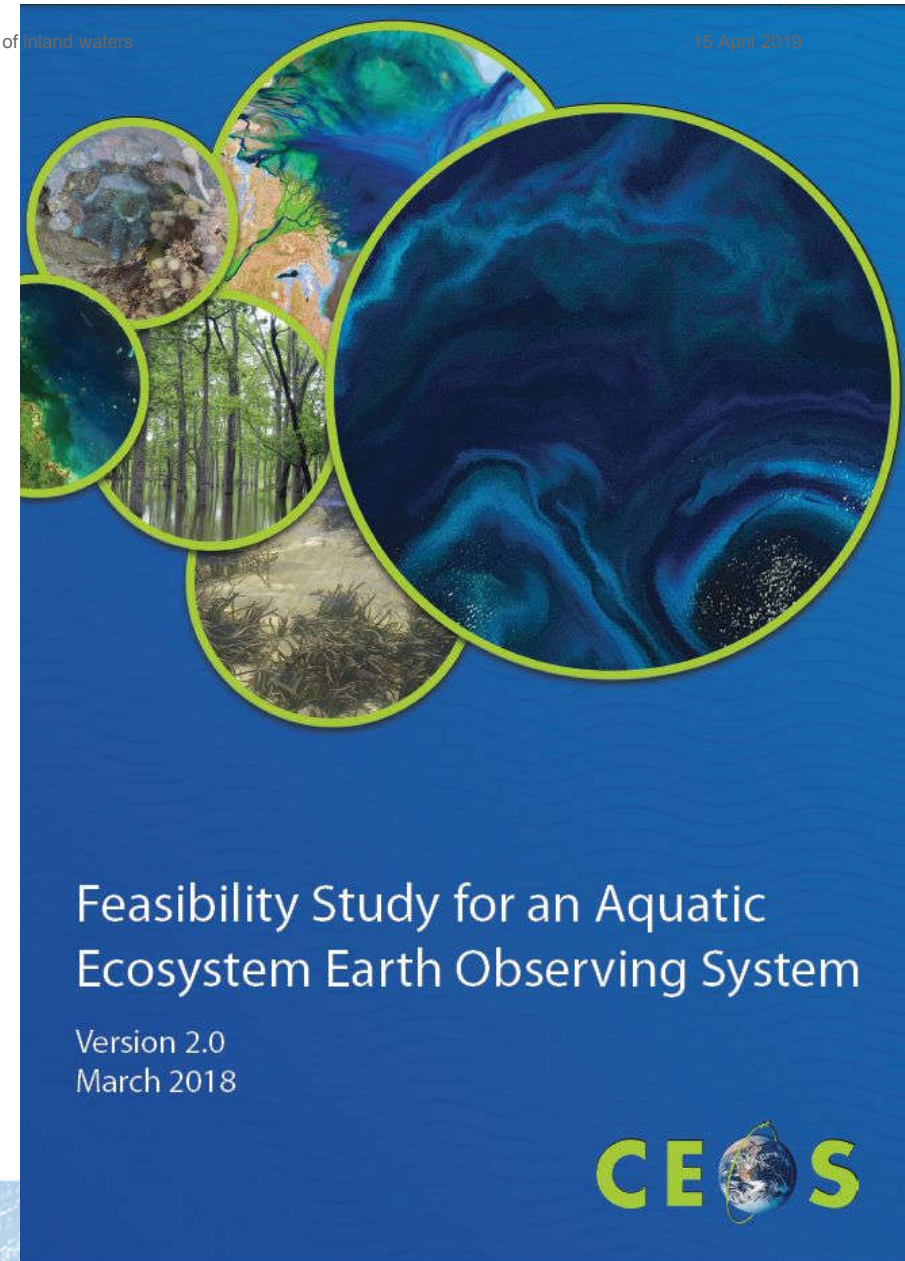
Expected stray light of EnMAP when illuminating a single detector element  
(Courtesy J. Brachmann)



## Sensitivity analysis: Sensor specification for aquatic satellite

- Key parameters
  - Concentrations: phytoplankton pigments, suspended matter, dissolved organic matter (CDOM)
  - Optical properties: phytoplankton fluorescence, absorption, backscattering, transparency
  - Others: water depth, bottom substrate type and coverage
- Sensor requirements
  - Spectral
  - Radiometric
  - Geometric
  - Temporal coverage

<http://ceos.org/about-ceos/publications-2/>



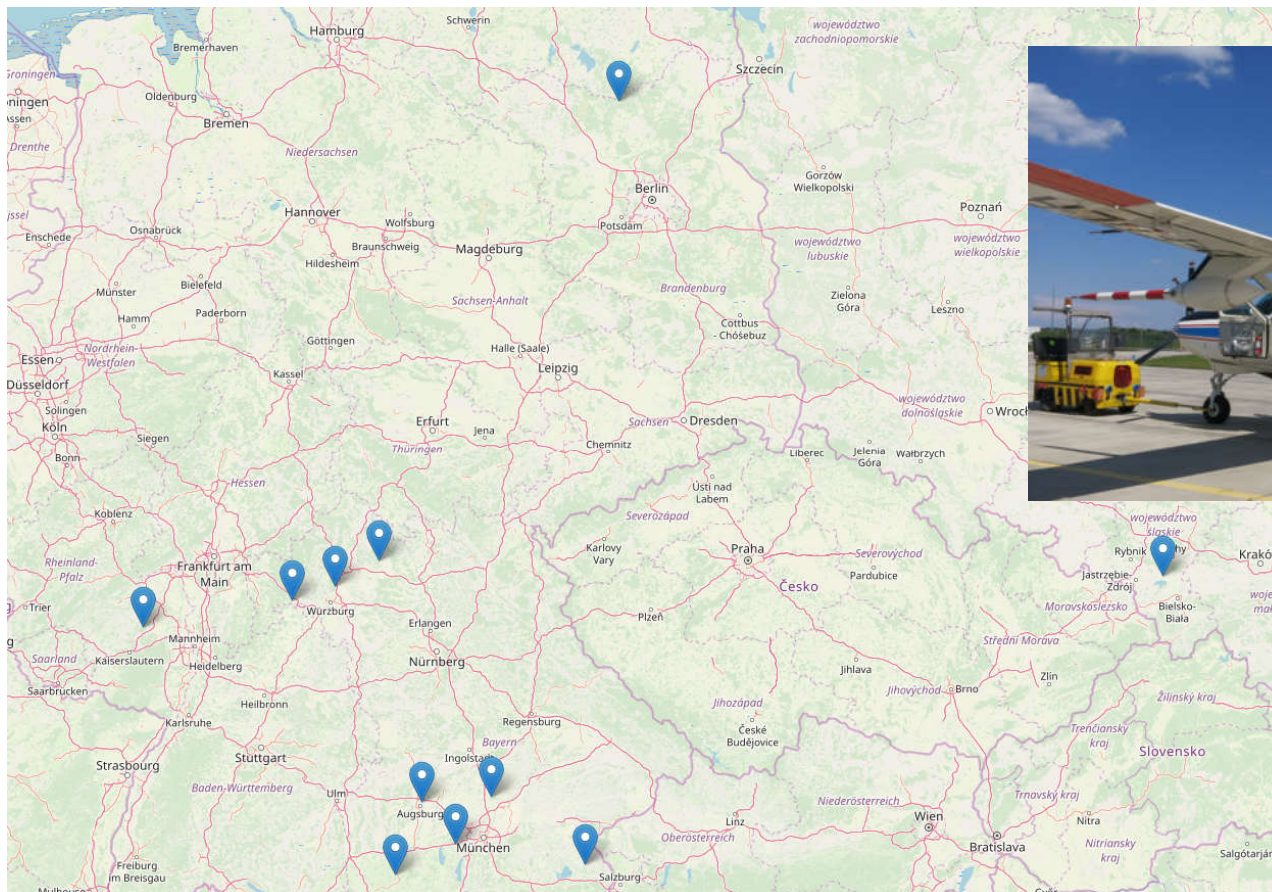


## L1-L2: Data, Validation



# Airborne campaigns for regional applications

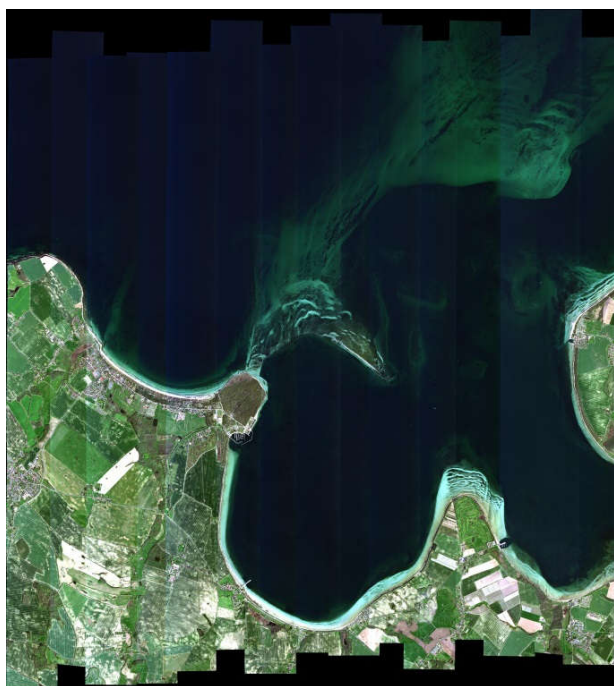
## OpAiRS: ISO certified service for airborne campaigns



Airborne campaigns in 2018  
(Courtesy C. Köhler)

# Airborne campaigns for satellite data simulation

## Simulation of EnMAP data

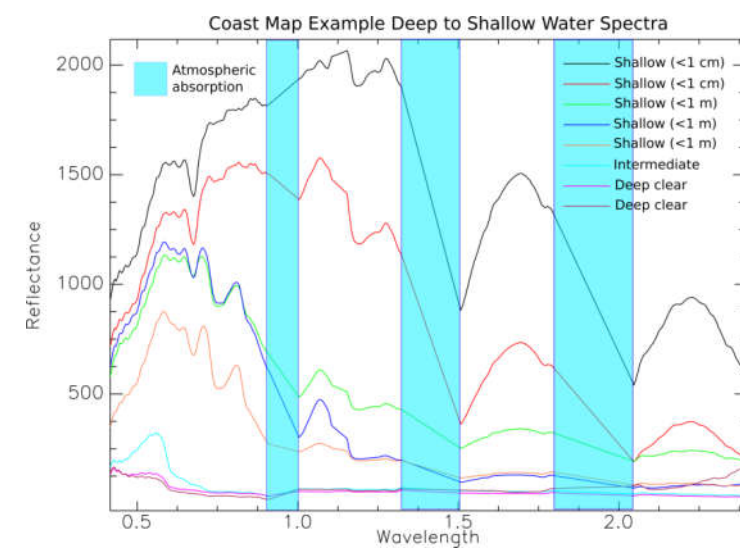


Mosaic of 15 HySpex flight strips



Simulated EnMAP scene  
Calculated by K. Segl (GFZ) using EeteS

Courtesy M. Bachmann



Reflectance spectra of water pixels  
Water depths are estimated





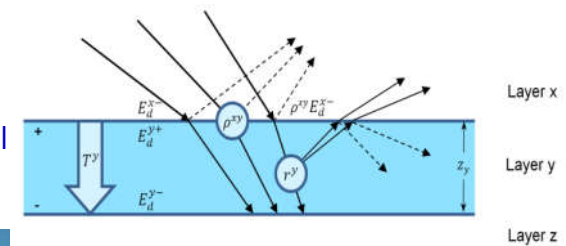
# Field campaigns for model development

## Reflectance model of Arctic meltponds

### Advantages of field spectrometer measurements compared to satellite data

- No errors from atmospheric correction
- Much better comparison with water samples
  - Temporal match-up: sampling can be nearly simultaneous
  - Spatial match-up: sampling can be at the same location
- Better spectral resolution
  - model errors can be better identified
- Variable measurement conditions
  - Above the surface / in water
  - Different viewing angles
  - Sunny, cloudy

Meltpond model



$$R^p = \rho^{ap} + \tau^{ap} \left( (1 - t_u^p T_d^p) r^{p,\infty} + t_u^p T_d^p \left( \rho^{pi} + \tau^{pi} \left( (1 - t_u^i T_d^i) r^{i,\infty} + t_u^i T_d^i (\rho^{io} + \tau^{io} r^{o,\infty}) \right) \right) \right)$$

Polarstern cruise  
PS 106 (2017)

BRDF of ice

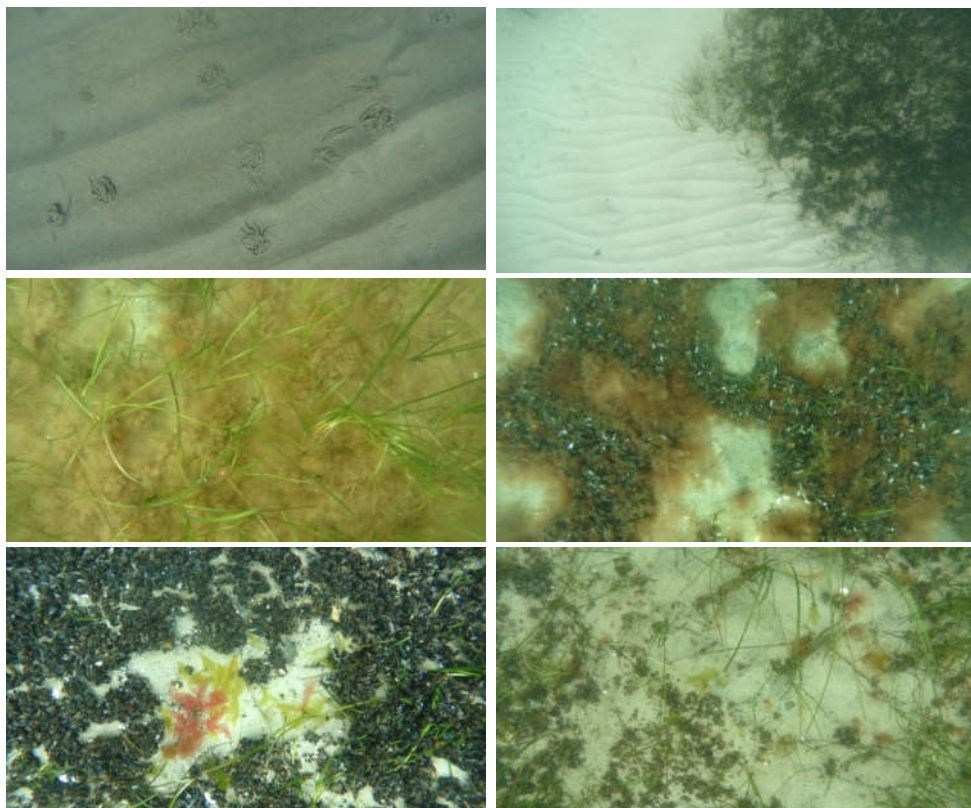


Reflectance of meltponds

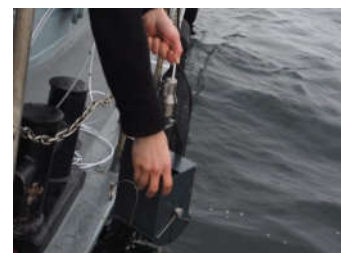


# Field campaigns for extending data bases

## Reflectance of bottom substrates



Diversity and heterogeneity of the seabed in the Baltic Sea



Substrate sampling with the Ekman-Birge sampler



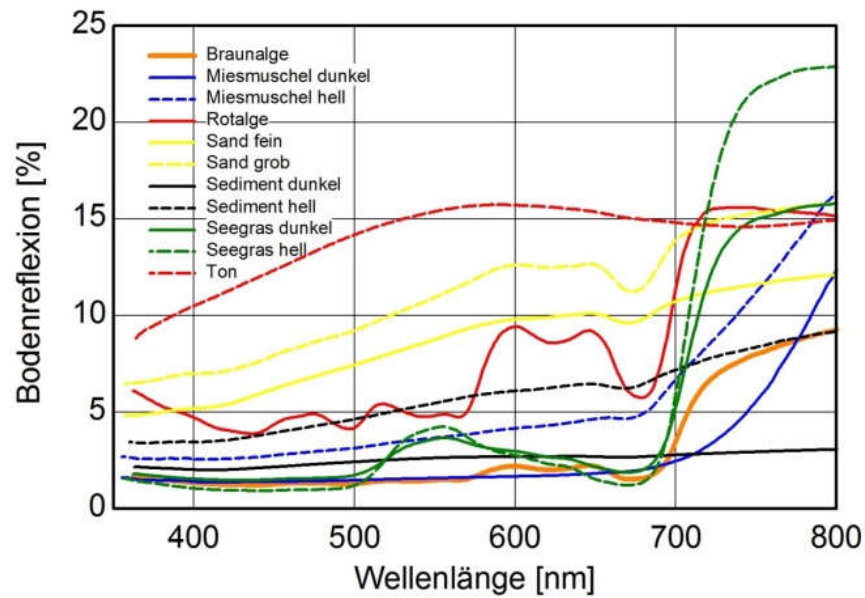
Spectral measurement of a substrate sample





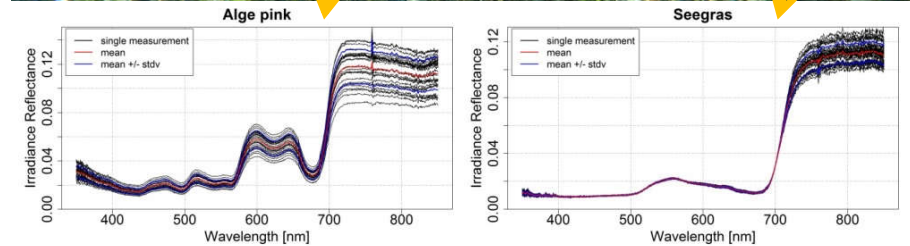
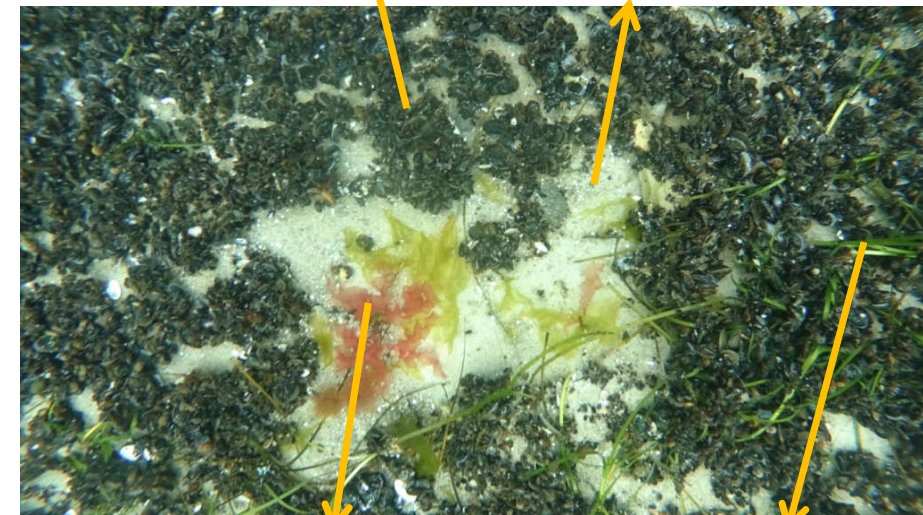
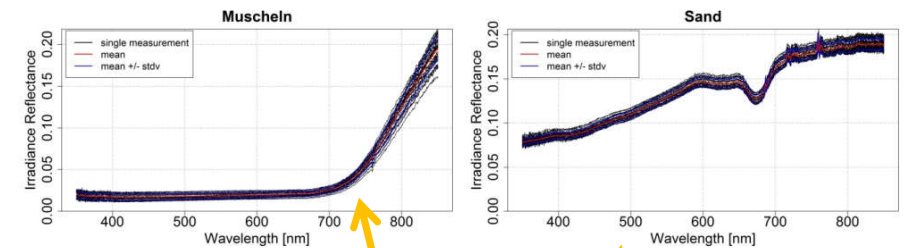
# Field campaigns for extending data bases

## Reflectance of bottom substrates



Spectral database  
of the Baltic Sea  
substrate types

K. Schnalzger, 2017. Spektrale Datenbank für den Untergrund der Ostsee sowie Einfluss auf die Bestimmung der Wassertiefe. *Masterarbeit Universität Augsburg, 68 Seiten.*



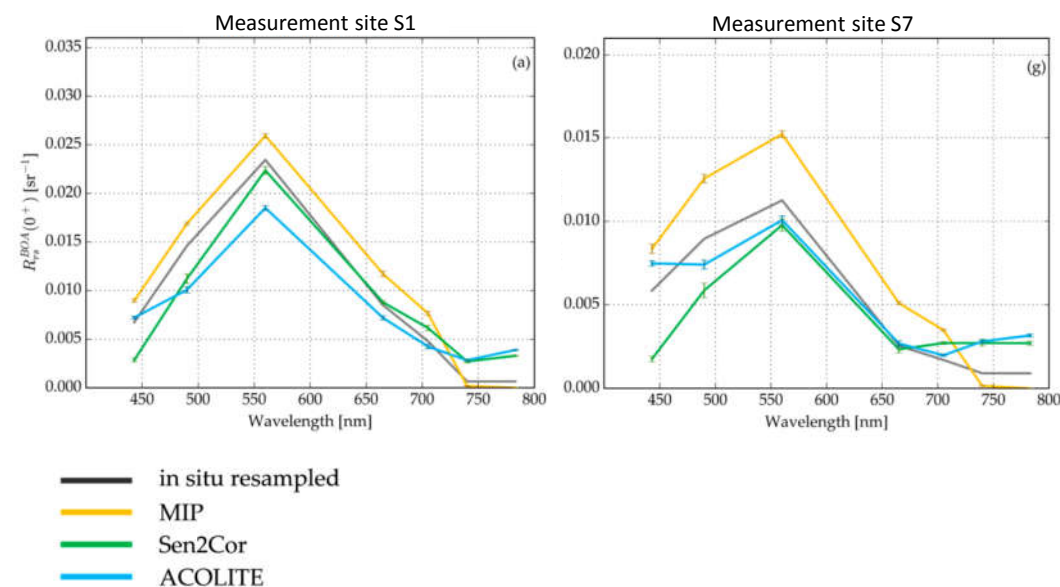
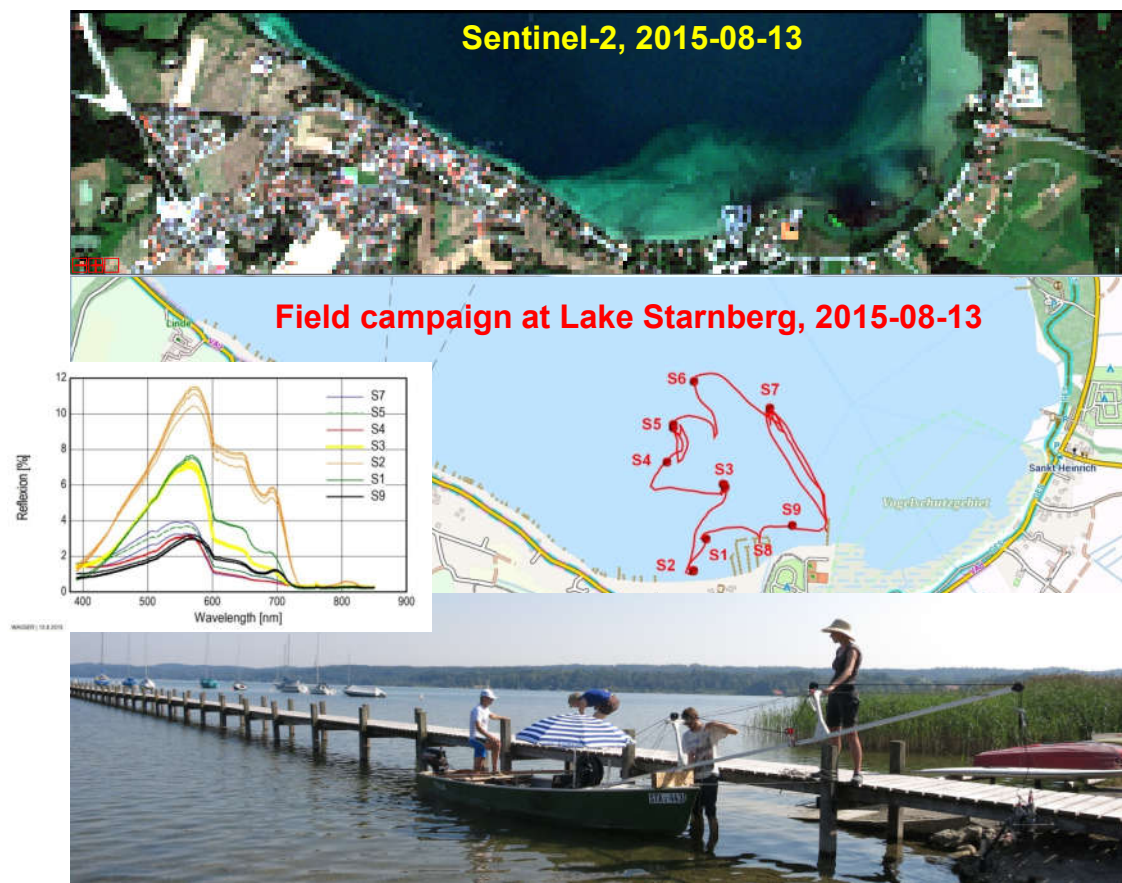
Diversity of the substrates and the associated reflectance spectra





# Field campaigns for validation of L2 remote sensing data

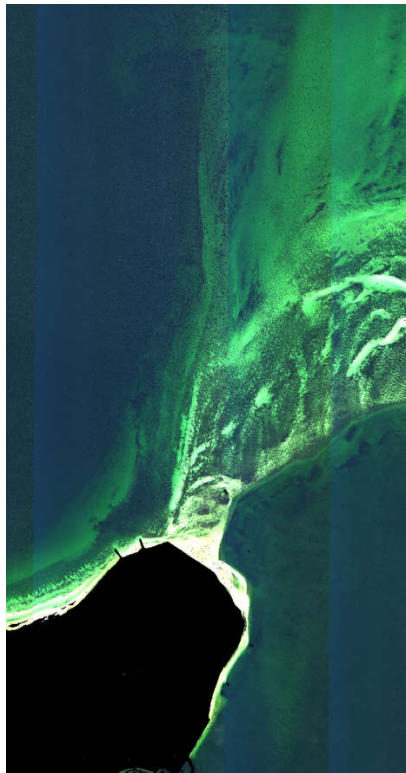
## Comparison of atmospheric correction models



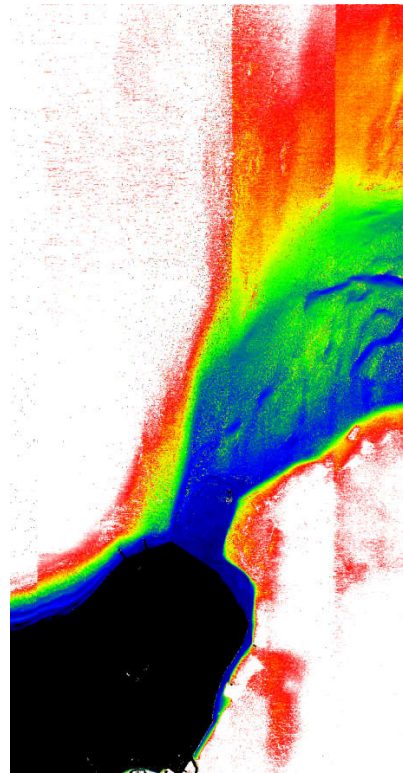
K. Dörnhöfer, A. Göritz, P. Gege, B. Pflug, N. Oppelt (2016): Water constituents and water depth retrieval from Sentinel-2A – a first evaluation in an oligotrophic lake. *Remote Sensing*, 8, 941.  
[doi:10.3390/rs8110941](https://doi.org/10.3390/rs8110941)

# Field campaigns for validation of L3 remote sensing data

## Bathymetry in the Baltic Sea derived from airborne data (HySpex)



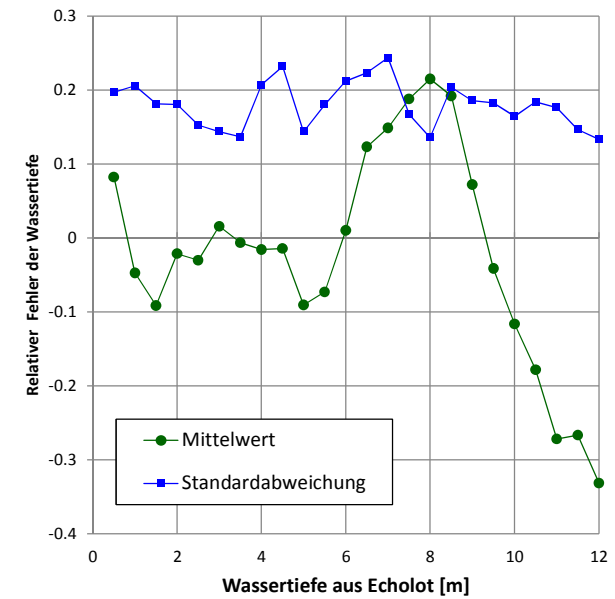
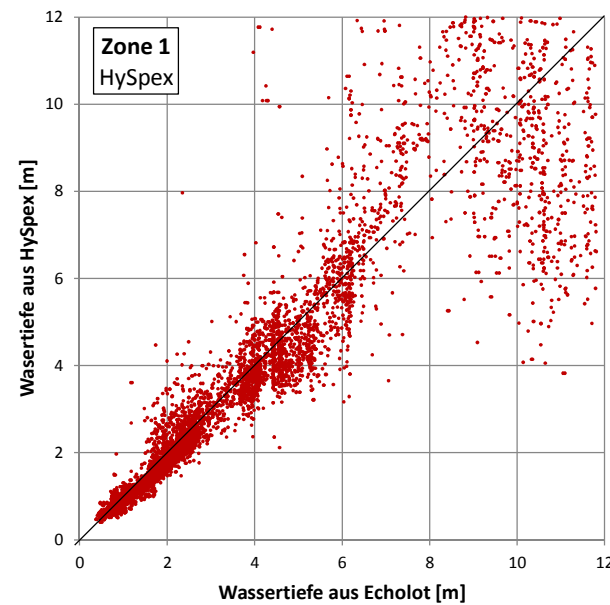
Baltic Sea coast near Wismar.  
HySpex 441, 549, 650 nm.



Water depth derived from  
HySpex data using WASI.



Echo sounding  
measurement by TUM



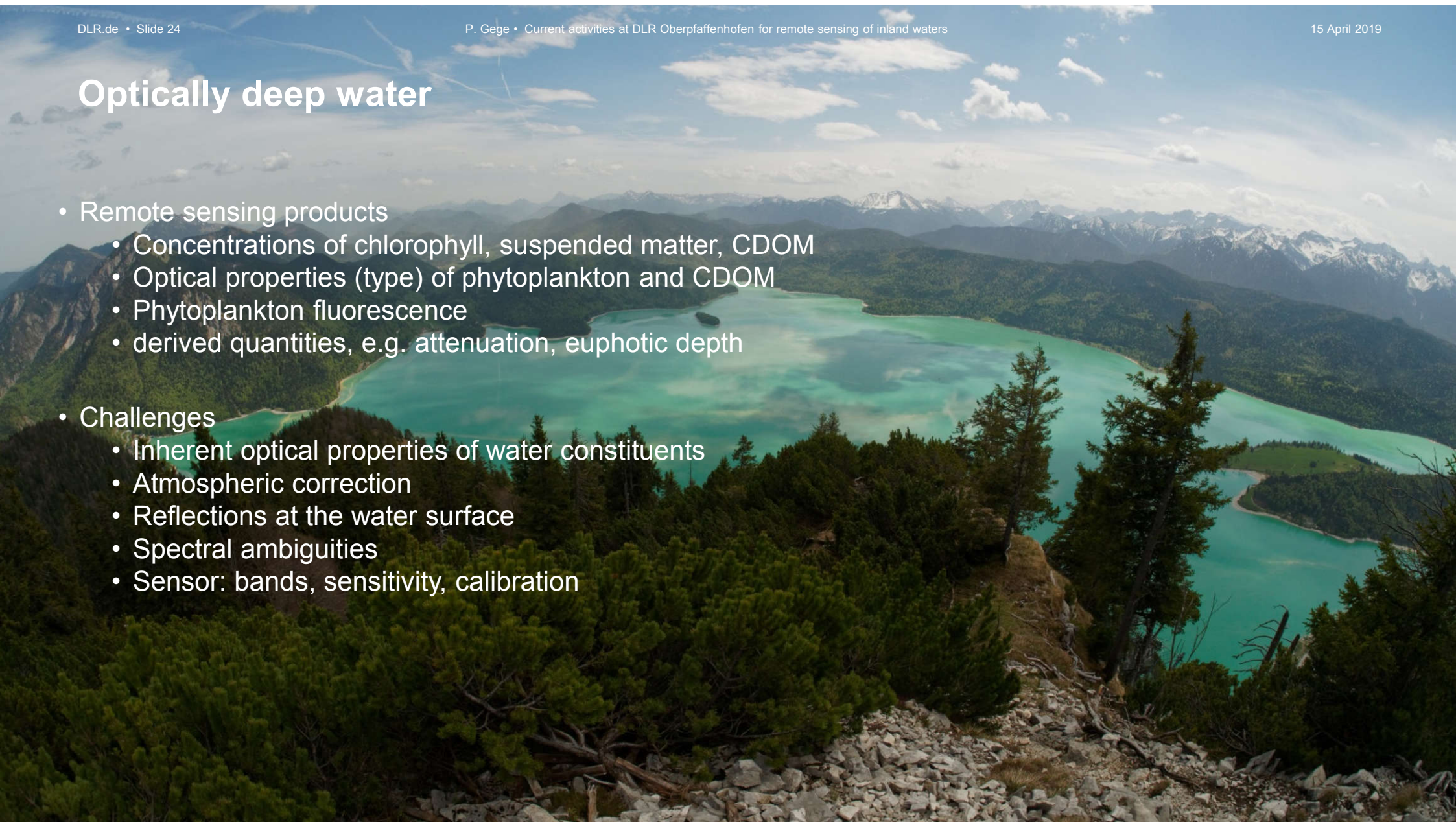
## L2-L3: Models, applications





# Optically deep water

- Remote sensing products
  - Concentrations of chlorophyll, suspended matter, CDOM
  - Optical properties (type) of phytoplankton and CDOM
  - Phytoplankton fluorescence
  - derived quantities, e.g. attenuation, euphotic depth
- Challenges
  - Inherent optical properties of water constituents
  - Atmospheric correction
  - Reflections at the water surface
  - Spectral ambiguities
  - Sensor: bands, sensitivity, calibration



# Bio-optical models

## Relationships between AOPs, IOPs and concentrations

- Irradiance reflectance (Gordon 1979:  $i = 1..3$ ; **Albert and Mobley 2003**:  $i = 1..4$ )
- Remote sensing reflectance (Lee et al. 1998, 1999:  $i = 1..2$ ; **Albert and Mobley 2003**:  $i = 1..4$ )
- $a(\lambda)$ : absorption coefficient of water.  
Depends on type and concentration of water constituents.
- $b_b(\lambda)$ : backscattering coefficient of water.  
Depends on type and concentration of water constituents.
- $f_i, g_i$ : Geometry factors.  
Depend on sun zenith angle, viewing direction, wind speed,  $a(\lambda)$  and  $b_b(\lambda)$ .  
**WASI uses the parameterization of Albert and Mobley (2003).**

$$R(\lambda) = \frac{E_u(\lambda)}{E_d(\lambda)} = \sum_i f_i \left( \frac{b_b(\lambda)}{a(\lambda) + b_b(\lambda)} \right)^i$$

$$R_{rs}(\lambda) = \frac{L_u(\lambda)}{E_d(\lambda)} = \sum_i g_i \left( \frac{b_b(\lambda)}{a(\lambda) + b_b(\lambda)} \right)^i$$

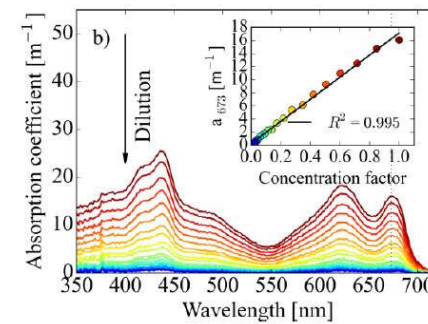
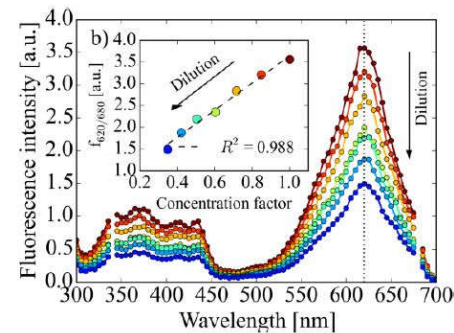
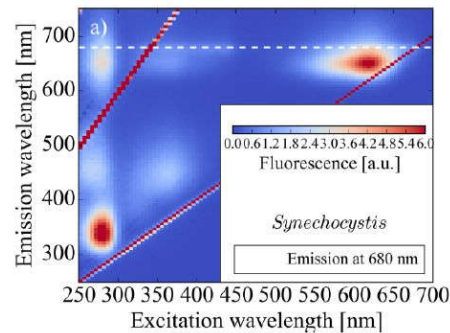
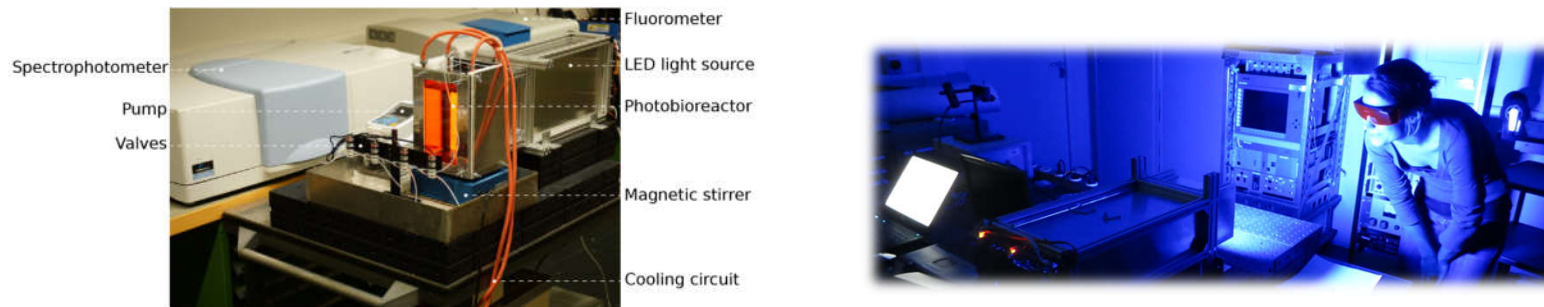




# Inherent optical properties (IOPs)

## Phytoplankton: Parameterization of absorption and fluorescence

Development of a bioreactor for the cultivation of phytoplankton under near-natural conditions



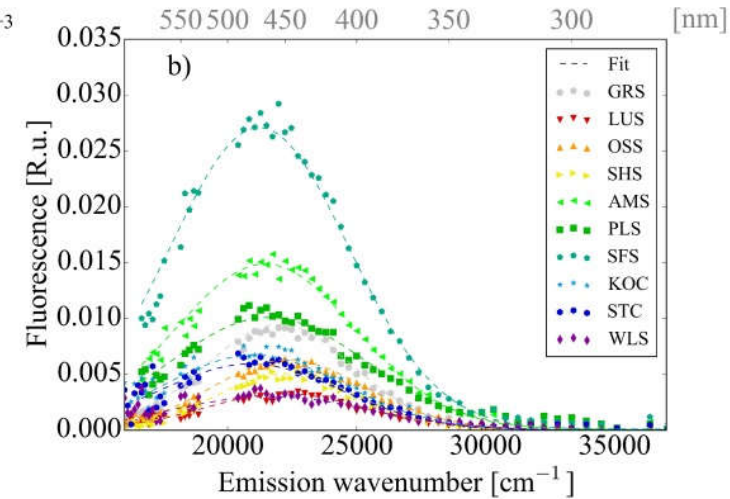
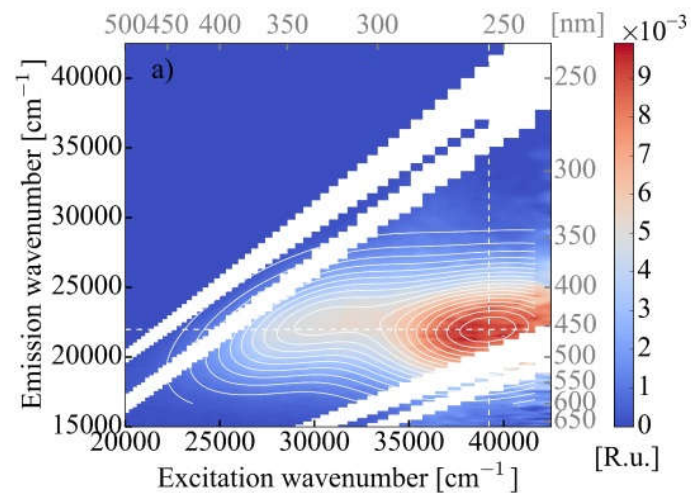
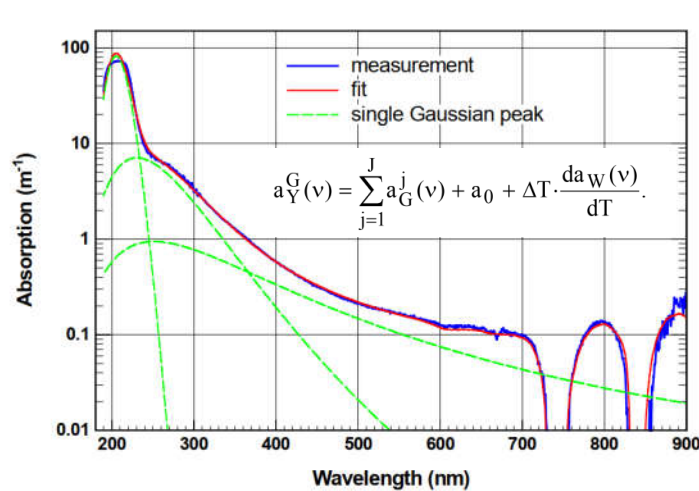
A. Göritz, S. von Hoesslin, F. Hundhausen, P. Gege (2017): ENVILAB: Measuring phytoplankton in-vivo absorption and scattering properties under tunable environmental conditions. *Optics Express* 25(21), 25267-25277. doi: 10.1364/OE.25.025267



# Inherent optical properties (IOPs)

## CDOM: Parameterization of absorption and fluorescence

Measuring and modelling absorption and fluorescence excitation-emission matrices



P. Gege (2000): Gaussian model for yellow substance absorption spectra. *Ocean Optics XV Conference, October 16-20, 2000, Monaco.*

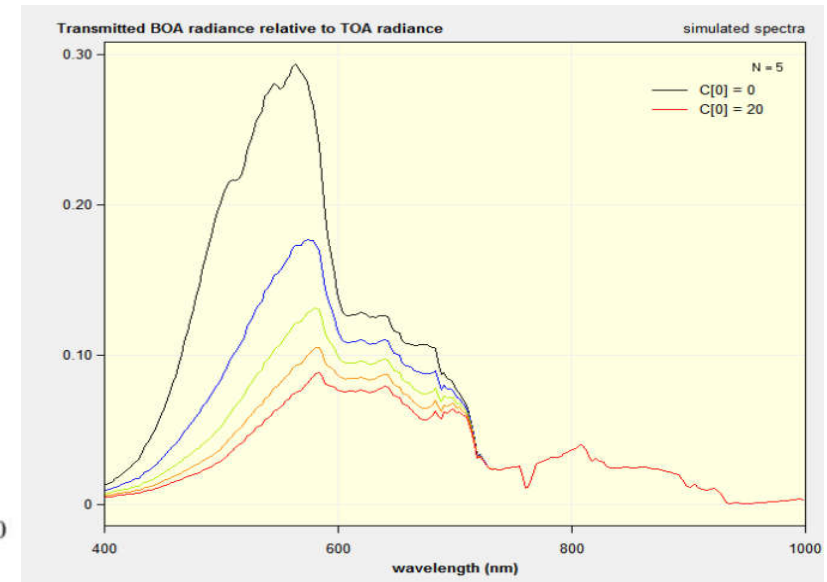
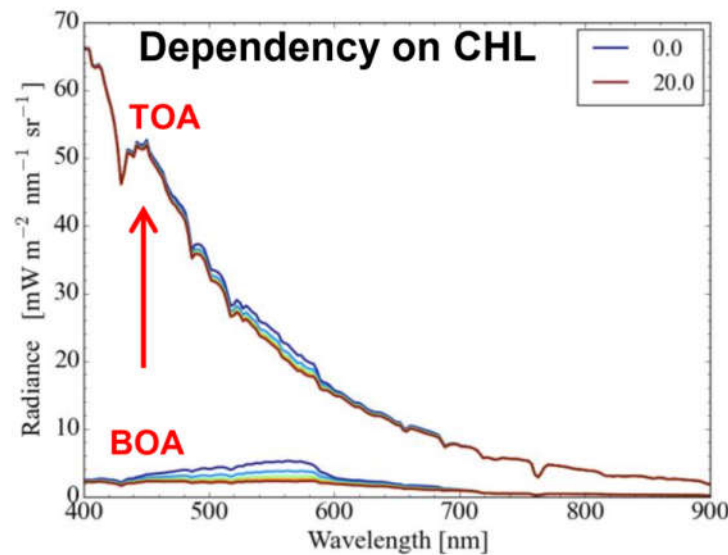
A. Göritz, P. Gege (2019): GLEAM: A spectral absorption and fluorescence model for dissolved organic matter in the UV-VIS. *In preparation.*



# Atmospheric correction

- Water leaving radiance is usually an order of magnitude less than radiance of the atmosphere
- Accurate and reliable software for atmospheric correction of inland waters does not exist
- ATCOR is currently being adapted to water conditions

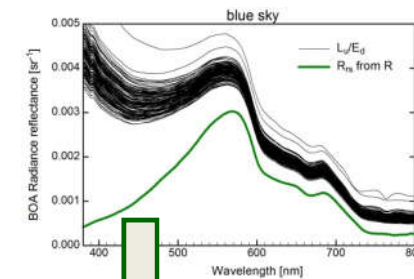
Simulations using MODTRAN and WASI.  
Conditions: TSM 1 mg/l, CDOM 0.5 m<sup>-1</sup>,  
Chl-a 0–20 µg/l, SZA 30°, VIS 100 km.



# Correction of reflections at the water surface

- Sun glint and sky glint
  - Usually more light is reflected at the surface than in water
  - No reliable correction algorithm exists so far
  - Errors can be huge, making data analysis unreliable
- Model for correction has been developed
  - Spectral model (not geometric as usual)
  - Accounts for atmospheric parameters
  - Models reflections from sun, blue sky, haze, clouds
  - Good results for field measurements and remote sensing data

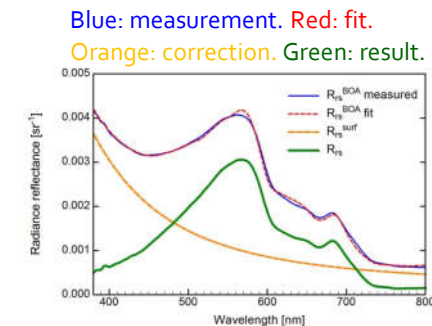
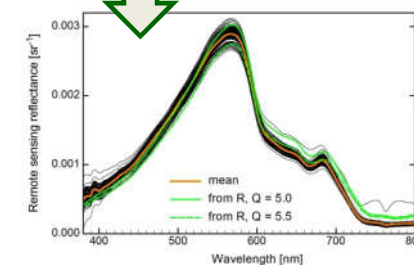
P.M.M. Grötsch, P. Gege, S.G.H. Simis, M.A. Eleveld, S.W.M. Peters (2017): Validation of a spectral correction procedure for sun and sky reflections in above-water reflectance measurements. *Optics Express* 25, A742-A761.



Ship measurements

Black: measurements above surface  
Green: measurements below surface

Correction algorithm





## Towards all weather monitoring



Field campaign at  
Lake Stechlin,  
2016-05-31

A. Göritz, S.A. Berger, P. Gege, H.-P. Grossart, J.C. Nejtgaard, S. Riedel, R. Röttgers, C. Utschig (2018): Retrieval of water constituents from hyperspectral in-situ measurements under variable cloud cover – A case study at Lake Stechlin (Germany). *Remote Sensing* 10, 181.



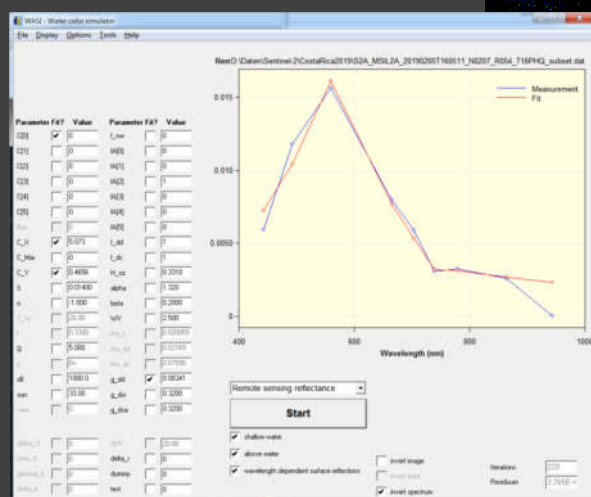
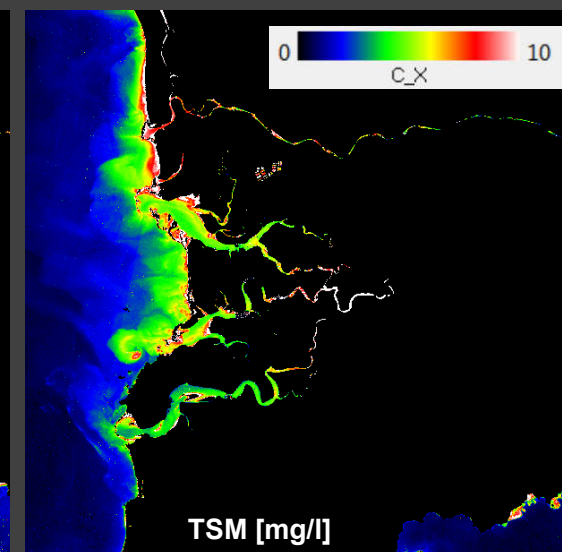
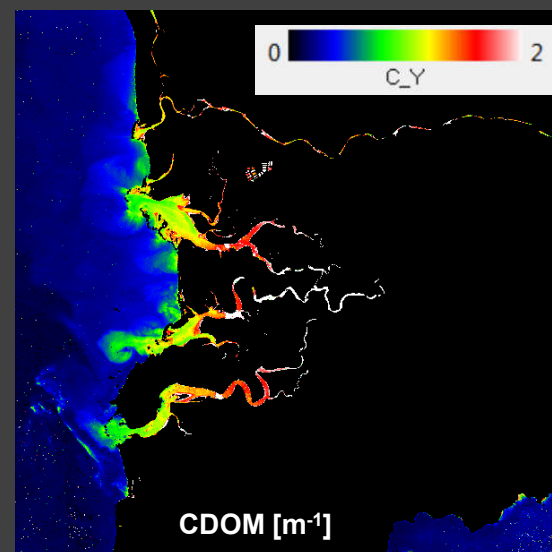
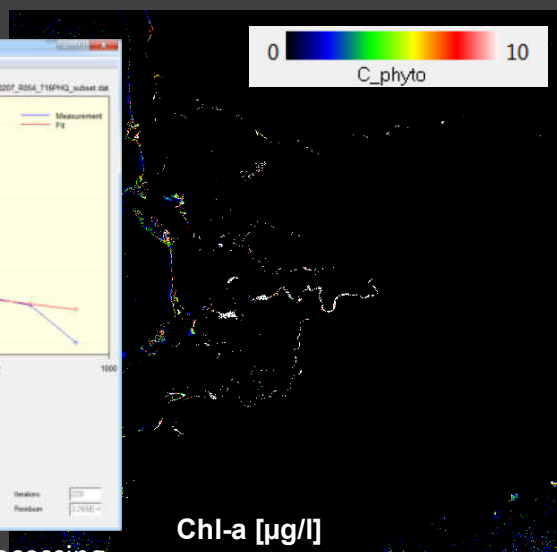
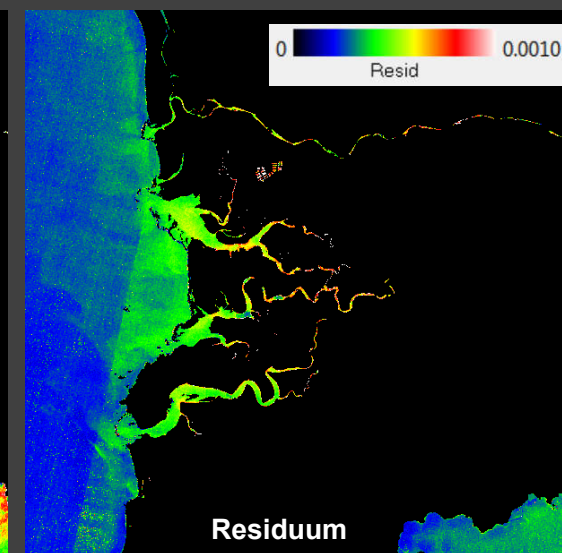
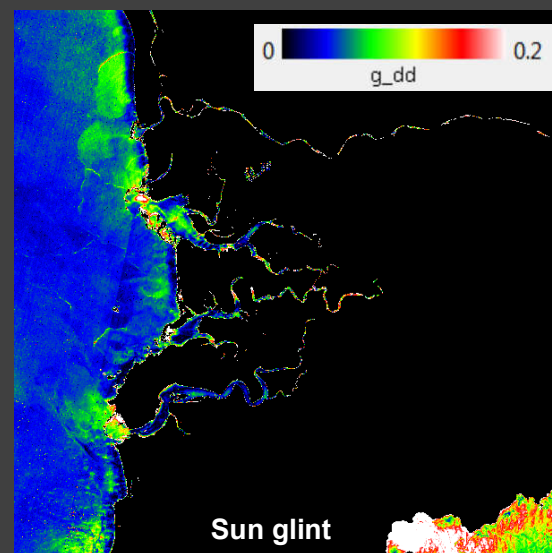
# Analysis of satellite data

**Sentinel-2**

2019-02-05

Terraba Sierpe

Costa Rica



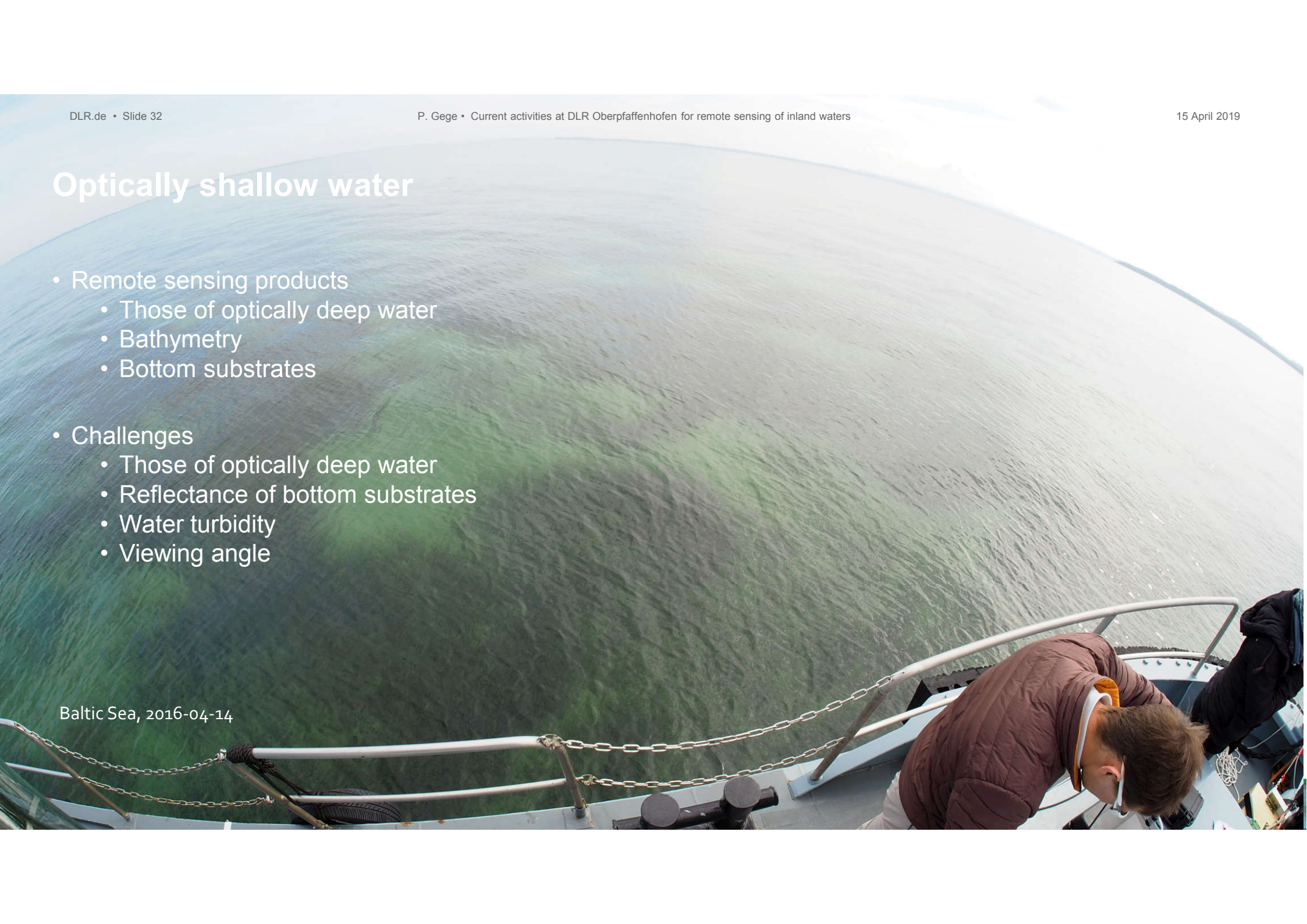
Screenshot of WASI during data processing



## Optically shallow water

- Remote sensing products
  - Those of optically deep water
  - Bathymetry
  - Bottom substrates
- Challenges
  - Those of optically deep water
  - Reflectance of bottom substrates
  - Water turbidity
  - Viewing angle

Baltic Sea, 2016-04-14

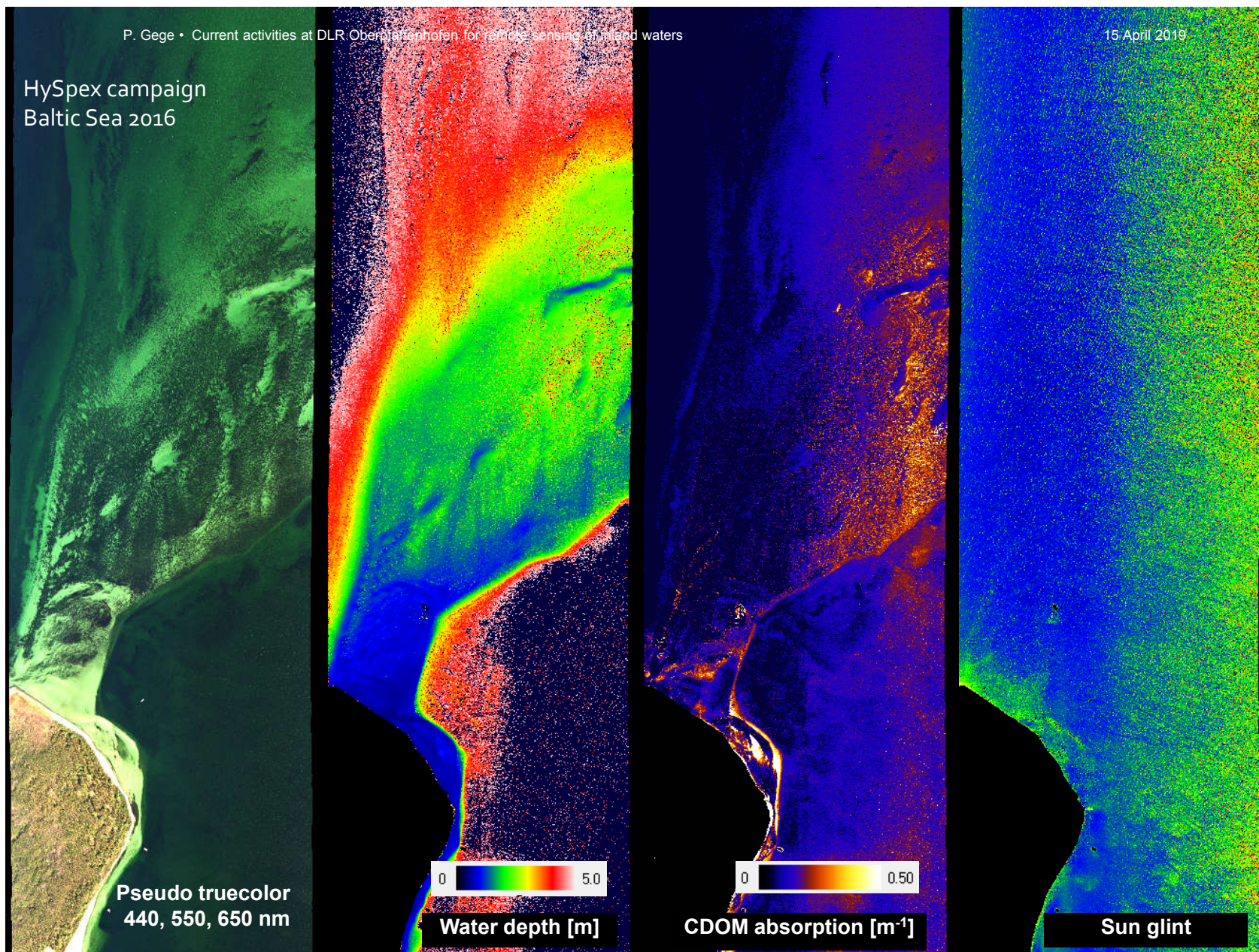




## Shallow water

- Model development
- Spectral data base
- Inversion algorithm
- Validation

HySpex campaign  
Baltic Sea 2016

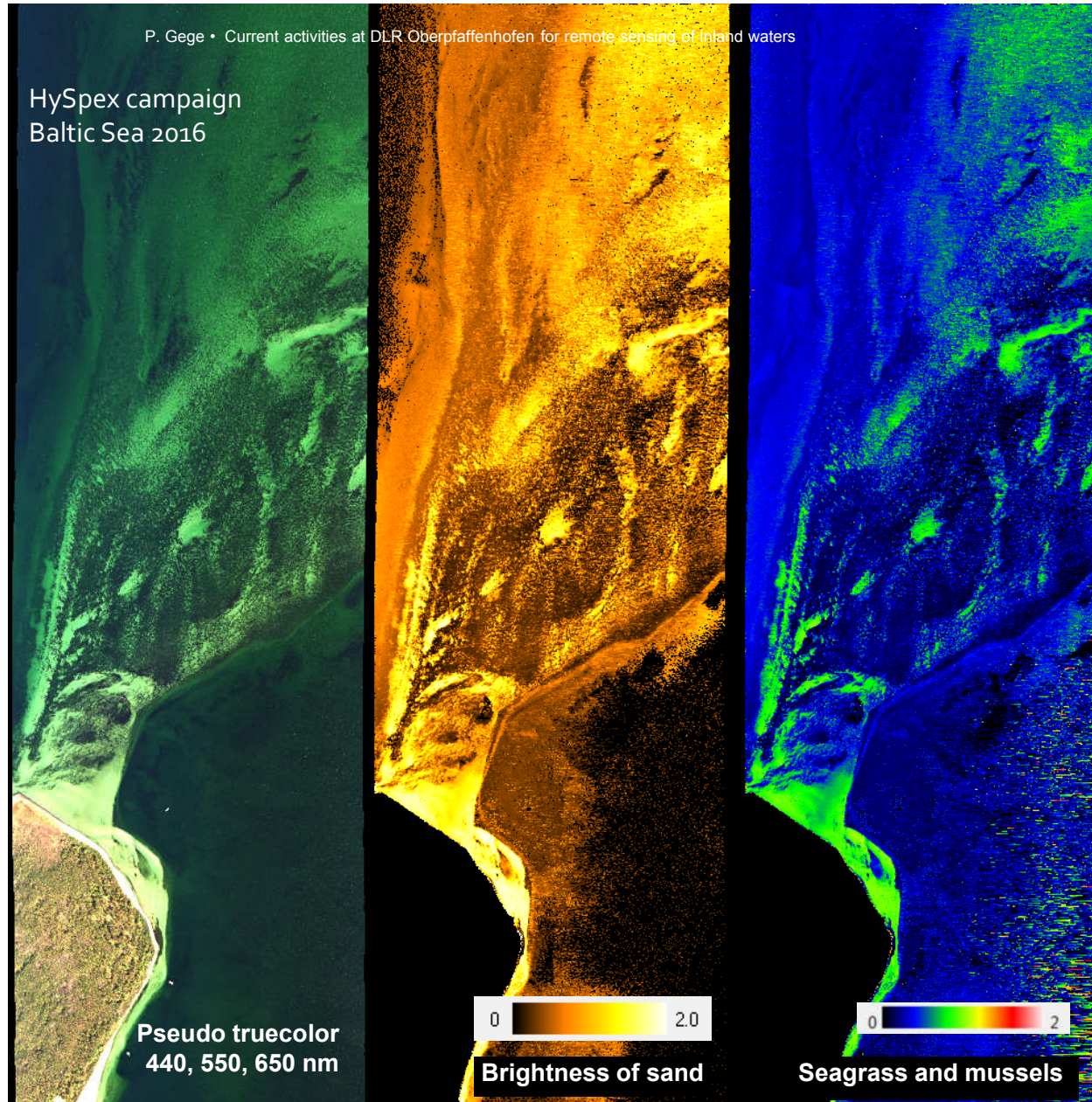




## Shallow water

- Model development
- Spectral data base
- Inversion algorithm
- Validation

HySpex campaign  
Baltic Sea 2016



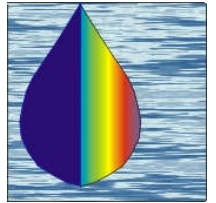
# Software WASI





# WASI

## Water color simulator



- ✓ Simulation and analysis of spectral measurements in water ( $a, R_{rs}, E_d, L_u, \dots$ )
- ✓ Bio-optical models for deep water [1] and shallow water [2]
- ✓ Analytical model of downwelling irradiance
- ✓ Elementary data base of SIOPs, bottom substrates, atmospheric absorbers
- ✓ Physically traceable and transparent calculation steps

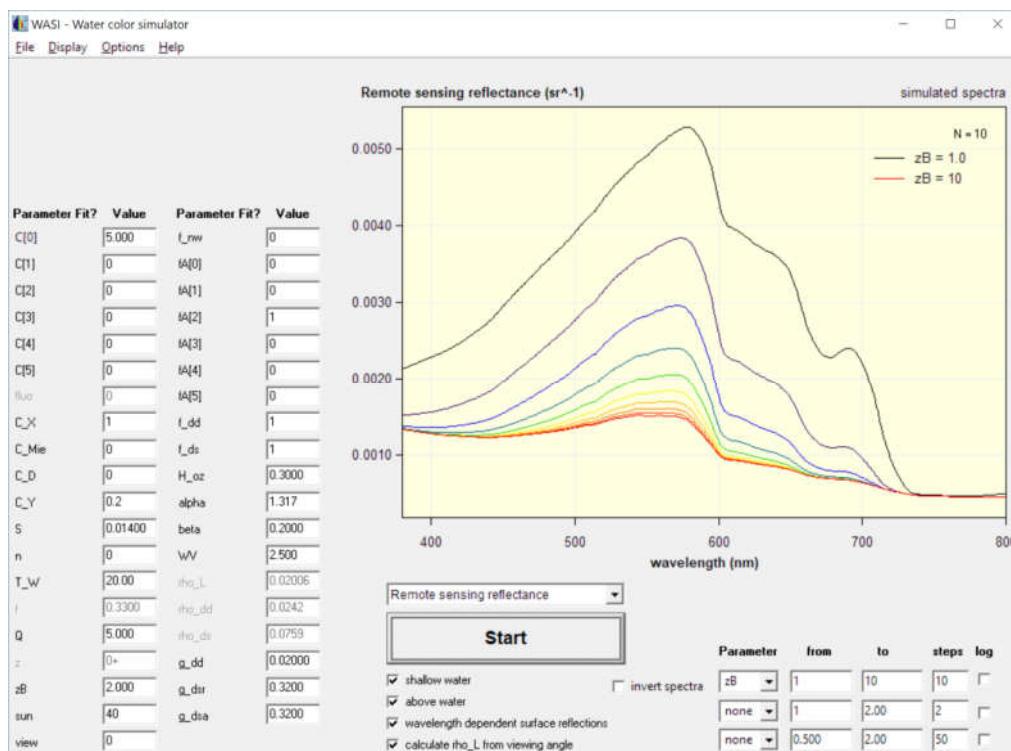
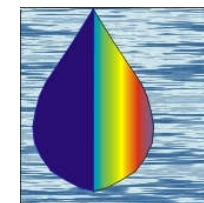
[1] P. Gege (2004): The water colour simulator WASI: An integrating software tool for analysis and simulation of optical in-situ spectra. *Computers & Geosciences* 30, 523–532.

[2] P. Gege, A. Albert (2006): A tool for inverse modeling of spectral measurements in deep and shallow waters. In: L.L. Richardson and E.F. LeDrew (Eds): "Remote Sensing of Aquatic Coastal Ecosystem Processes: Science and Management Applications", Kluwer book series: Remote Sensing and Digital Image Processing, Springer, ISBN 1-4020-3967-0, pp. 81-109.

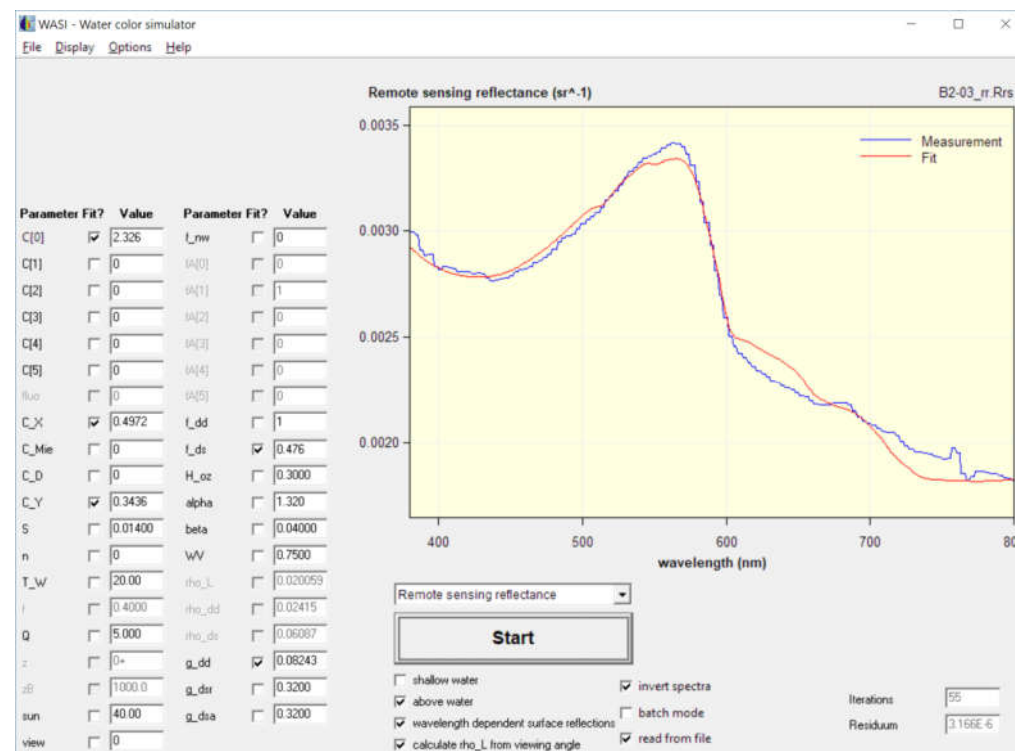


# WASI

## Water color simulator



Forward mode: simulation of measurements

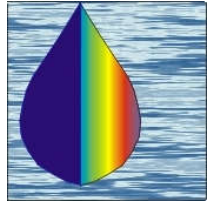


Inverse mode: analysis of measurements



# WASI-2D

## Module of WASI for local image data processing



- ✓widely customizable to local conditions
- ✓easily adaptable to any suitable sensor
  - multispectral, hyperspectral (400–1000 nm)
  - on satellite, aircraft, UAV ...
- ✓user can fine-tune all relevant steps
- ✓physically traceable
- ✓standard ENVI file format (BIL, BSQ)
- no uniform processing of global data sets
- input data must be atmospherically corrected
  - requires sensor calibration
  - minor errors from ac can be corrected
- not optimized for high speed
- requires a data base
- no support of sensor specific data formats

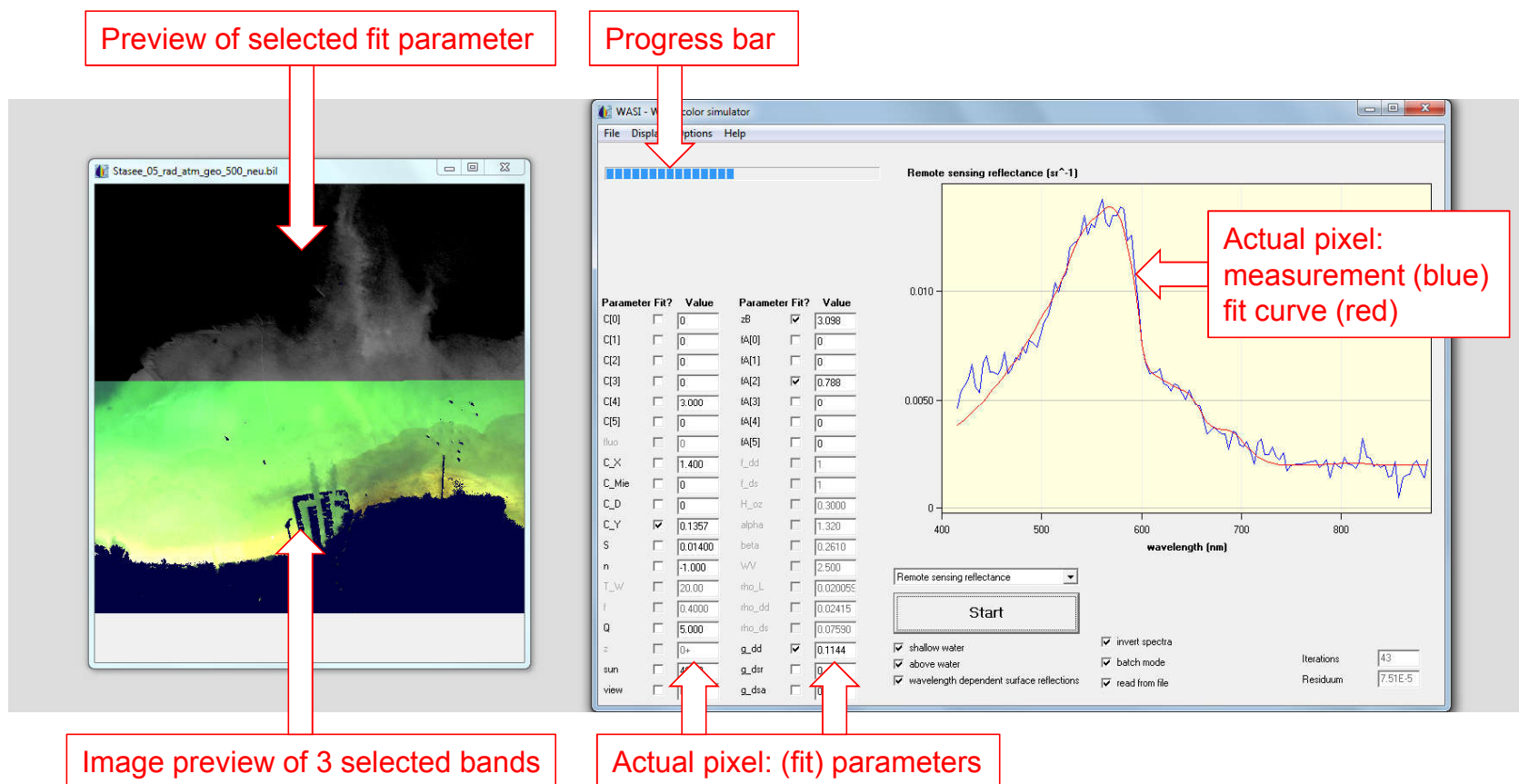
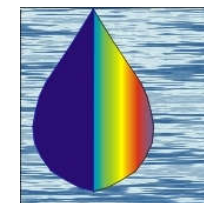
P. Gege (2014): WASI-2D: A software tool for regionally optimized analysis of imaging spectrometer data from deep and shallow waters. *Computers & Geosciences* 62, 208-215. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.cageo.2013.07.022>





# WASI-2D

## Module of WASI for local image data processing



**Thank you for your attention!**

Field campaign in Costa Rica,  
2019-03-14

